



Biodegradable and compostable
are **NOT** the same thing.

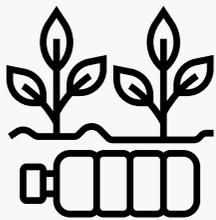
Biodegradable vs. Compostable



Breaks down into **smaller pieces**.



Breaks down into **natural, non-toxic components**.



Requires heat, water, oxygen, and microorganisms to break down, but **may never fully degrade**.



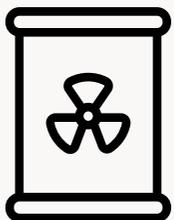
Requires heat, water, oxygen, and microorganisms to **fully break down**.



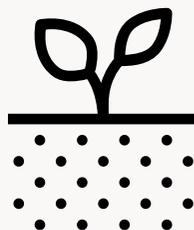
May still take **decades** to disappear



Breaks down within **180 days** in a commercial composting system.



May leave **toxins** or **residue**



Breaks down completely and **provides nutrients** to soil and plants.

It is generally best to leave out plastic items labeled as “biodegradable” from your compost, and to check with your service provider on accepted items, if any.